



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Lee Holloway
Chairman of the Board

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CHAIRMAN HOLLOWAY SUBMITS PROJECTS FOR FEDERAL STIMULUS AID

Rather than burden taxpayers with all costs, federal government could provide some relief

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway today forwarded to Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle a list of Milwaukee County capital and infrastructure projects that could be eligible for possible federal economic stimulus funds. “In an effort to make sure that Milwaukee County residents aren’t left behind, I took it upon myself to get project details from department heads, administrators and constitutional officers within Milwaukee County,” Chairman Holloway said. “Milwaukee County is in a recession and we need to do everything we can to provide relief for property tax payers.”

One of the areas included in Chairman Holloway’s submission includes the Milwaukee County Transit System, which has not replaced any buses since 2006, when bus replacement costs were instead diverted to support day-to-day transit operations. “We must address this problem by next year, as buses reach the end of their useful life,” Chairman Holloway said. “We are also seeking assistance for other projects, including the Parks system, Child Support Enforcement, and the Department of Public Works. Rather than force Milwaukee County tax payers to pay 100% of these costs, we have an opportunity for the federal government to possibly cover a large part of these upcoming expenses.”

Numerous Departments heads and constitutional officers submitted projects to the Chairman that he forwarded to Governor Jim Doyle. “I appreciate that the Governor is working with us to submit these projects to the Federal Government,” Chairman Holloway added. “Everyone knows the County Executive dropped the ball, so we had to step up to the plate and go to bat for Milwaukee County residents.”

The projects submitted include:

1) **Milwaukee County Transit System**

Plan submitted by Managing Director Anita Gulotta-Connelly for:

- Capital acquisition of 155 buses at an estimated cost of \$62 million
- Farebox improvements at an estimated cost of \$7 million
- Bus Rapid Transit implementation at an estimated cost of \$40 million
- Fare Reductions to \$1.75 at an estimated cost of \$2 million

2) Milwaukee County Parks System

- Parks Director Sue Black submitted a comprehensive Parks System Infrastructure Maintenance Summary Report, detailing a wide range of projects. The submitted list highlights \$96 million in projects that are “shovel-ready.”

3) Milwaukee County Department of Child Support Enforcement

- Testimony from County Executive Scott Walker and Board Chairman Lee Holloway to federal Ways and Means Committee urging members “*to make reinvestment in child support part of an economic stimulus package.*”
- Restoration of performance incentive funds at an estimated cost of \$7.6 million

4) Milwaukee Public Museum, submitted by MPM President Dan Finley

- Five capital projects at an estimated cost of approximately \$1 million, including energy efficient improvements

5) Milwaukee County Research Park, submitted by MCRP Executive Director William Drew

- Energy efficient modernization of MCRP incubator, including windows and HVAC at an estimated cost of \$9 million

6) Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services, submitted by DHHS Director Corey Hoze

- Requests at an estimated cost of \$6.4 million, including:
 - ❑ \$3.5 million for Electronic Medical Records Implementation;
 - ❑ \$169,100 for Disability Resource Call Center equipment; and
 - ❑ \$350,000 for Food Stamp Mobile Application Vehicle at the Cogs Building

7) Milwaukee County Department of Public Works, submitted on behalf of DPW Interim Director Jack Takerian

- Capital projects across thirteen categories, from the Airport to the Zoo at an estimated cost of \$175.5 million, including
 - ❑ Courtroom bullet resistant glass window (\$239,800)
 - ❑ Energy savings performance contracting (\$7,000,000)
 - ❑ Airport safety improvements (\$410,000)
 - ❑ Various transportation road projects (\$21,242,150)
 - ❑ North Shop Building, design completed 10 years ago (\$8,700,000)
 - ❑ Wil-O-Ways upgrades and renovations (\$884,000)

8) Office of the Milwaukee County Sheriff, submitted on behalf of Sheriff David Clarke, Jr.

- Technology upgrades to improve service to citizens and the nineteen municipal law enforcement agencies in Milwaukee County at an approximate estimated cost of \$7 million, including:
 - ❑ Purchase and implementation of replacement Electronic Medical Records systems serving the jail and the House of Corrections; and
 - ❑ Purchase of fifty replacement squad cars for aging fleet

9) Milwaukee County Circuit Courts, submitted by Chief Judge Jeffrey Kremers

- Purchase of video-conferencing equipment for courts at an estimated cost of \$300,000

10) Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, submitted by Managing Director Paul Matthews

- Request for Marcus Center Improvements to Pedestrian Access and Public Spaces along the Riverwalk at an estimated cost of \$6.5 million